

REFERAT Studienævnet for Internationale Studier d. 29-01-2025

Mødedato Onsdag d. 29. januar 2025 kl. 09:00

Mødested 14.2-023

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Punkt 1: Members present

Beslutning

Present:

VIP

Laura Horn (chair)

Thomas Paster

Line Engbo Gissel

Lone Riisgaard

Student representatives

Vilte Maldziute (vice-chair)

Sophie Loiwersheimer

Liliana Calisto

Head of Studies

Markus-Michael Müller (GDS)

Laust Schouenborg (IPG)

Absent with notice:

Sofie Würtz

Sune Haugbølle (IS)

Absent without notice:

Aleksander Fløystrup Nielsen

Alternates:

Johan Fischer

Punkt 2: Approval of the agenda

Nomination:

The board is asked to approve the agenda.

Beslutning

The agenda was approved without comments.

Punkt 3: Approval of last month's minutes

Nomination:

The board is asked to approve the minutes from the december meeting.

Beslutning

The minutes were approved without comments.

Bilag

December 24.pdf

Punkt 4: Number of places offered (09:05 - 09:10)

Nomination:

The study board is asked to take note that 69 students have accepted an offer to study GDS with study start in spring 2025. 12 of these students are danish and the rest international.

The study start program for the students planned by the study environment coordinator, head of study and study environment tutor can be found here: <https://study.ruc.dk/class/view/37136>

Beslutning

The board noted that this was the last winter intake and acknowledged the enrollment of 69 students in GDS. There was general satisfaction with the intake.

Punkt 5: Study environment tutor calendar for the upcoming semester (09:10 - 09:15)

Nomination:

The study board is asked to make itself acquainted with the attached overview of program activities that the study environment tutors are responsible for.

Appendix:

- Activity calendar for spring 2025

Beslutning

The board appreciated the presented visualization of the study environment initiatives and found it valuable. No further additions were suggested. It was agreed that the visualization should be sent to the teachers by the heads of study.

Bilag

ISE F25 Grafisk Overblik over studiemiljø aktiviteter.pdf

Punkt 6: Study regulation changes on GDS projects (09:15 - 09:20)

Nomination:

The board is asked to take note of the revised descriptions for the GDS project 1, 2 and 3 that was approved as part of the study regulation changes.

Appendix:

- Revised text drafts for GDS project 1, 2 and 3 by Lone riisgaard and Johan Fischer

Beslutning

The board reviewed the study regulations changes and no issues were raised. It was noted that for Project 2, as in Project 3, additional hours should be allocated due to the teaching format, specifically for guiding students in the short format. This should be in addition to the two supervisions already provided.

The Head of Studies for GDS was asked to liaise with the Vice Dean regarding securing these additional hours.

Bilag

Revisions GDS SR projects 17.12.24_final.docx

Punkt 7: Qualitative Interview Methods - complaint process (09:20 - 09:25)

Nomination:

The board is asked to note the answer from the legal department concerning the complaint process on the course: "Qualitative Interview Methods" – (Advanced methodology course – practice-related methods) F2024

Appendix:

- E-mail-thread with the legal department

Beslutning

The board expressed frustration with the handling of the issue and emphasized the need to push for action and reach out at an early stage in similar cases. A key concern was that systemic issues were not being taken seriously, as the legal department consistently approached such matters on an individual basis rather than recognizing potential structural problems.

It was noted that sanctions and handling differ between individual and structural cases, and this should be addressed at a fundamental level. The board discussed the possibility of writing a letter of concern to highlight these issues.

Additionally, it was agreed that the process had been unsatisfactory. A concern was raised that it seems difficult for the study board to be involved in handling group issues. This limits its capacity for quality control and restricts students' ability to raise broader structural concerns in the study boards.

Next Steps: The board will bring this issue up for discussion in the next meeting to explore ways to address structural concerns and advance the case further.

Bilag

Klagesag - IS SN (RUC 11838744).pdf

Punkt 8: Change in MA admission practises (09:25 - 09:35)

Nomination:

The board is asked to note the change in admission practise meaning, that it will limit the admission number of USB-students with vocational university degrees.

Appendices:

- E-mail correspondence explaining the change
- Internal memo on the change

Beslutning

The board acknowledged and welcomed that there may be fewer USBs in the future, though the exact number remains uncertain. However, this should not be used as an excuse to neglect efforts regarding the USBs already present. The study board reaffirmed its commitment to supporting their integration and will continue these efforts.

Bilag

VS_ Orientering af ændret vurderingspraksis for visse ansøgere fra Bangladesh.pdf

Internt notat_Vurdering af uddannelsesniveau Bachelor of Honours BD_1712_NC.docx

Punkt 9: Cancellation of course (09:35 - 09:40)

Nomination:

The study board is asked to note, that the course "Latin America in the World" has been cancelled due to too few students signing up.

Appendix:

- E-mail-correspondences on the issue

Beslutning

The board noted the unfortunate last-minute cancellation of the course, which was disappointing for students interested in Latin America. Efforts were made to be lenient with affected students. It was suggested that the course might be offered in a future semester.

IPG students expressed confusion about course options, particularly regarding their ability to take both the Advanced Seminar and Current Global courses, as well as GDS courses. The board agreed that better communication is needed to ensure all students understand their options.

Action Points:

- Explore the possibility of updating Study RUC to make course options clearer. Pia will be consulted on how to improve synchronization. A potential solution was suggested: modifying course listings to include clarifications in parentheses (e.g., "10 ECTS elective"). This issue will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Bilag

SV_ status tilmelding GDS specialiseringskursus Latin America in the world.pdf

VS_ Orientering af ændret vurderingspraksis for visse ansøgere fra Bangladesh.pdf

Punkt 10: MA-reform (09:40 - 09:50)

Oral orientation / status.

Beslutning

The board noted that students were surprised by the communication regarding the MA reform and the closure of several programs, including IPG. The board found it unfortunate that the IPG closure was decided despite a strong and well-argued hearing response from the study board.

A meeting with the dean, vice dean and IPG teaching community was scheduled for the following day to explain the decision. The study board chair was encouraged to attend.

Concerns and next steps

- **Uncertainty About Transition:** The exact timeline for the final student intake remains unclear, with potential last intakes in 2026 or 2027. The board emphasized the need for clarity, as uncertainty could impact student enrollment and the program's reputation.
- **Democratic Process:** Concerns were raised about the lack of democratic representation in decision-making. Faculty had limited opportunities to voice their opinions, and the hierarchical process was seen as problematic. However, efforts were made to gather input through teacher meetings and study board discussions.
- **Integration of IPG Faculty:** The board strongly insisted that management should ensure the integration of IPG faculty into other programs. There was concern about job security and the need to create space for affected teachers in continuing programs.
- **Impact on BA Programs:** Questions were raised about how the upcoming BA reform would be affected by IPG's closure, particularly in relation to sector-based student intake reductions.
- **Support for IPG Students on Leave:** The board highlighted the need to ensure that students on leave or in transition could complete their existing programs.

Proposed actions

- A meeting between IS, IPG, and GDS where course coordinators could present teaching needs and identify potential matches ("course speed-dating").
- Encouraging cooperation between IS and IPG faculty, with Sune taking an active role in discussions.
- Markus will reach out to GDS faculty at a future GDS Away day to explore ways to incorporate IPG teachers into their courses.
- If direct integration efforts do not succeed, the issue will be escalated to the vice-dean.
- Johan (new chair) was encouraged to reach out to Flemming (head of PF study board) to discuss including IPG faculty in relevant initiatives.

Punkt 11: Change in pre-approved programs for IPG (09:50 - 09:55)

Nomination:

It is recommended that the study board approved to remove RUC's bachelor programs in Business Administration/HA and Business Studies be from the list of pre-approved programs for IPG.

Appendix:

Case-presentation by Uddannelse and Studerende (US)

Beslutning

The board approved the decision to remove RUC's BA programs in Business Administration/HA and Business Studies from the list of pre-approved programs for IPG. The academic reason for this decision is that business students do not meet the academic requirements outlined in the admission guidelines.

Bilag

Studienævnsindstilling - forhåndsgodkendelser_IPG.pdf

Punkt 12: Break and cake (09:55 - 10:05)

Beslutning

The board thanked outgoing chair and vice-chair, Vilte and Laura, for their dedicated efforts and invaluable contributions to the study board. Their hard work and leadership were greatly appreciated, and the board expressed gratitude for their commitment to improving the student experience and academic quality.

Punkt 13: Selection of activities for evaluation (10:05 - 10:10)

Nomination:

The study board is asked to decide which activities will be evaluated in the coming semester.

Appendix:

- Recommendation with suggested activities to be evaluated based on the study board's adopted criteria for evaluation practice.

Beslutning

The board discussed the current list of courses and electives, raising concerns about missing courses, particularly for the GDS and IPG programs. It was noted that some courses, such as the new social protection course, were not included in the overview or evaluation list.

The board emphasized that all courses, including those not evaluated for six semesters, should be included in the list. It was decided that the table should encompass all courses, including:

1. Subject module course 3/3a: EU Institutions and Governance
2. Subject module course 3b/5b: Political Economy of Development
3. Subject module course 3c/5c: International Institutions and Global Governance
4. Subject module course 3e/5a: EU as a Global Actor
5. Subject module course 4a/7: Advanced social science methodology courses (Advanced Methods in Problem-oriented Project Work)
6. Master theses
7. Subject module project 1 in International Studies
8. Two new electives in advanced studies

Additionally, it was recommended to include International Political Economy (IPE) in the table and expand the list to cover all activities. The board agreed to follow these principles moving forward.

The board also thanked Andres for his work on the evaluation.

Bilag

International Studies, F25.docx

Punkt 14: Approval of course offer (10:10 - 10:20)

Beslutning

The board discussed a course where the current convener may be stepping down, and the possibility that someone else may need to take over. It was suggested that teachers should be reminded of the process when submitting a course proposal. Emphasis was placed on committing to the process, understanding the consequences, and ensuring teachers are aware of their responsibilities.

The course "Radical Alternatives and Concrete Utopias" was discussed due to its overlap with a BA-level course. While the administration raised concerns, the board decided to keep it as an open elective, recognizing its flexibility and availability to Søk students as well. Students that have already taken it on BA-level will however not be able to choose the course on MA-level.

GDS:

Fieldwork methods will remain exclusive to GDS and IPG, with specific instructions for International Studies.

The other two courses can be open.

IPG:

Legal Methods open for everyone across programs

Power Analysis course: Open to IPG, GDS, and PF programs.

For the bottom four courses, Laust (HoS) will inquire with the course conveners about the potential opening to Samjur-students. Laust reported back to Signe that all four courses could be opened to samjur.

Bilag

GDS-E25-F26-F27.xlsx

IPG-E25-F26-F27.xlsx

FM-IS-E25-F26-F27.xlsx

Approval of course offer E25-F6 for electives and E25-F27 for mandatory courses

Recommendation

It is recommended that the study board comments and approves the course offer for E25-F27 for mandatory courses and for E25-F26 for electives of both the BA programme and the MA programmes of the study board.

The study board is also asked to decide whether its MA method courses should be offered to all other ISE MA programmes.

Finally, the study board is asked to decide if any of its MA specialization courses are offered to other programmes than GDS, IPG and PF.

Background

The important thing is to offer the right courses to the right programmes at the right time. Course responsibilities can still be found until the deadline on 6 February so this will be done in cooperation between the administrative study support and the HofS (this is why names of course responsibilities in the Excel sheet may be marked in pink – it has not yet been decided).

The offer has been gone over with the HofS – for the BA programme only concerning the method courses, but there has not been made changes concerning the number or content of the subject module courses, so it is expected that data in the Excel sheet is accurate.

MA method courses

The ISE HofS and the Vice-Dean have discussed whether all English language method courses are offered to all ISE MA programmes and all Danish language method courses are offered to all Danish programmes.

There were two perspectives in the discussion:

1. In principle everything should be offered to all students (within practical and legal boundaries) as this assures that students can form their profile also with method courses.
2. English language method courses are only offered to GDS, IPG and PF. This assures a homogenous student group.

A majority of the HofS and the Vice-Dean support the first perspective.

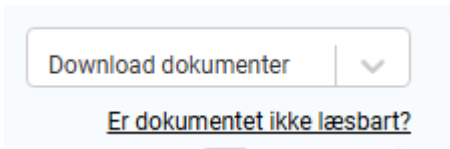
MA specialization courses

The specialization courses of the study board are interesting for Samfundsjura who would like to offer them to their students, and in time, so would Samfundsøkonomi.

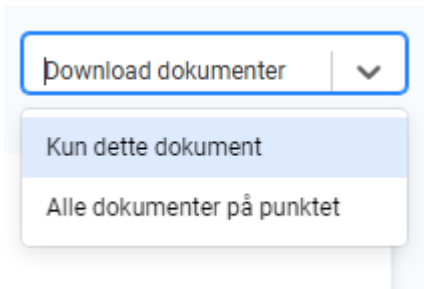
The study board should decide whether it will include these two programmes in their offer of specialization courses.

How to access the appendices

Please, **download** the Excel sheet in FirstAgenda. In the upper right corner of the First agenda site, you click this box:



Then click "alle dokumenter"



The documents will be downloaded in Excel format, and you open it from downloads – upper right corner of your screen:



Punkt 15: Lukket

Punkt 16: Student's item (10:50 - 10:55)

Beslutning

No student item. The students informed that the student responsible for the earlier discussed exam complaint has been informed of the boards follow up on the case.

Punkt 17: Any other business (10:55 - 11:00)

Beslutning

Laust raised the issue of handling potential plagiarism during exams. The board discussed whether exams in progress should be canceled if there is suspicion of cheating. The vice-dean has informed, that a new document will be created to detail the process moving forward.